

December 16, 2002

Mr. Roy J. Schepens, Manager  
Office of River Protection  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 450, MSIN: H6-60  
Richland, WA 99352

Mr. Keith Klein, Manager  
Richland Operations Office  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A7-50  
Richland, WA 99352

Mr. Ronald F. Naventi, Project Manager  
Bechtel National Inc.  
2435 Stevens Center Place, MSIN: H4-02  
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Messrs. Schepens, Klein, and Naventi:

Re: Transmittal of a Proposed Modification to the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) Dangerous Waste Permit Conditions

This letter transmits a proposed permit modification for incorporation of WTP design information into Part III, Chapter 10, of the Hanford Facility's *Dangerous Waste Portion of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) of Dangerous Waste* (WA7890008967), hereafter called the "Permit". This modification will incorporate design information allowing concrete to be placed in the regulated portions of the -45 and -19 foot levels of the Pretreatment Building, and allowing construction of walls to grade. A number of draft page changes to the Permit are also included to clarify leak detection system submission requirements and to correct some minor errors and oversights. Additional copies of the draft Permit modification will be provided on CD-ROM if requested.

A 180 day temporary authorization (TA) was issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) for the design information in this draft Permit modification on November 1, 2002 pursuant to WAC 173-303-830(4)(e). The TA authorized construction included in this draft Permit modification to proceed at risk. The risk for the Permittees is that public comment may require changes to portions of the Pretreatment Building already constructed.

In accordance with WAC 173-303-840(3), public review of the draft Permit modification will last 45 days. The public review begins December 16, 2002 and ends January 31, 2003. A public hearing is not currently scheduled for this modification. If a public hearing is requested during the comment period, the hearing will be held at the Ecology Office in Kennewick after a 30 day notice has been published, in accordance with WAC 173-303-840. Ecology has distributed copies of the draft Permit modification to the Hanford Public Information Repositories in the cities of Richland, Spokane, and Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon for public review.

The draft Permit modification package consists of the statement of basis, the certified design package PTF-001 (for the construction of the floors at -45 and -19 foot levels and walls to grade for the Pretreatment Building), and draft Permit Condition page changes. The draft Permit Condition page changes are shown with double underlines indicating new text, and strikeouts indicating deleted text. The information in the PTF-001 design package will be placed in the appendices in Attachment 51 as indicated in the statement of basis, prior to Ecology issuing the final permit decision on this draft Permit modification.

In accordance with WAC 173-303-830, only those conditions subject to modification are reopened. All other aspects of the existing Permit remain in effect for the duration of the modification.

If there are any questions about this letter, please call Ms. Suzanne Dahl at (509) 736-5705.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Wilson  
Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program

SS:nc

CC; w/o attachment:

Joel Hebdon, USDOE  
Tony McKarns, USDOE  
Dave Bartus, EPA  
Andy Boyd, EPA, Seattle  
Nick Ceto, EPA  
Dean Ingemansen, EPA, Seattle  
Cathy Massimino, EPA, Seattle  
Fred Beraneck, WGI  
Phil Peistrup, WGI  
Brad Erlandson, BNI,  
Lori Huffman, ORP  
Jim Rasmussen ORP  
Bill Taylor, ORP

Russell Jim, YIN

Todd Martin, HAB

Donna Powaukee, NPT

Stuart Harris, CTUIR

Ken Niles, ODOE

Administrative Record: WTP Dangerous Waste Permit

bcc w/o att: Robbie Biyani  
Laura Cusack  
Suzanne Dahl  
Kelly Elsethagen  
Andy Fitz, ATG  
Tracy Gao  
John Grantham  
Jerry Hensley  
Laura Ruud  
Joe Shorin, ATG  
Ron Skinnarland  
Steve Skurla  
Jean Vanni  
Jerry Yokel  
Central Files: Waste Treatment Plant Permit Correspondence